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Live Smoke Free e-News

www.mnsmokefreehousing.org

Smoke-Free Multi-Housing

Summer 2008

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Live Smoke Free educates tenants, landlords, and other interested groups about the benefits of smoke-free multi-housing.

Smoke-Free Multi-Housing:
Healthier Buildings,
Happier Tenants,
A Smart Investment.

Free Signs!

Dear Carissa,

Thank you for your interest in smoke-free housing! Whether you're a tenant looking for a smoke-free home, a landlord wanting to adopt a smoke-free policy, or someone who wants to learn more about the benefits of smoke-free housing, Live Smoke Free is available to help.

Smoke-Free Building Spotlight

Bigos Management opens two smoke-free properties!

In November 2007, [Mallard Creek Apartments](#) in Golden Valley adopted a smoke-free policy thanks to the hard work of property manager Toni Powell. Since then, Toni has been spreading the word about the benefits of smoke-free buildings to her peers at [Bigos Management](#).

With Toni's referrals, Bigos management has opened two more buildings smoke free!

- [The Lowertown Lofts](#) in St. Paul offers loft living across from Mears Park.
- [Regency Hill](#) in Woodbury offers a small community with luxury units.

Another building owned by Bigos--[Heritage Place](#) in Rogers--plans to go smoke free before the end of 2008. A policy at Heritage Place would give Bigos Management **four smoke-free buildings in the metro area!**

Live Smoke Free congratulates Bigos management for supporting their property managers in the process of going smoke free. We would also like to congratulate Toni Powell, Bonnie Olson, and the other Bigos property managers who have adopted smoke-free policies for their buildings.

St. Paul and Minneapolis Adopt Smoke-Free Low Income Tax Credits for Developers

Breaking News Bulletin written by the [Tobacco Law Center](#).

On May 7, 2008, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Housing Finance Board

Landlords and managers of smoke-free buildings can receive free signs for their buildings.

All signs have a similar message, "For the health of our residents and guests, this building is 100% smoke free."

- Window/glass door clings available in English only, English/Hmong, and English/Spanish
- Metal plaques for common areas and unit doors
- 12"x18" metal signs to be mounted outdoors
- Magnet shopping lists to place in units as new tenants move in

To receive materials, visit our web site or call us at 651-646-3005.



National News

[Northern Michigan University Apartments go Smoke Free](#)

[Novato, CA passes secondhand smoke nuisance ordinance](#)

[Apartments.com national survey: 40% of renters support smoke-free housing](#)

approved changes to their Low Income Housing Tax Credit programs that will provide an incentive to developers to include a smoke-free policy as part of their affordable housing developments. Following the example of California and Maine, the Board added language to both the Minneapolis and the St. Paul Qualified Allocation Plans (QAP) that awards one point to developers if they agree to a policy "prohibiting smoking in all the apartment units and common areas of the project." The accepted language change also requires that "the project must include a non-smoking clause in the lease for every household."

Read the [full story](#) (opens as a pdf)

Smoke-Free Living Featured in "The Apartment Guide"

After many conversations with the American Lung Association in Oregon, the apartment-finder service "The Apartment Guide" has decided to highlight smoke-free properties! Smoke-free apartments will be listed in three ways:

- **On the web:** After typing in a city and state or zip code, click on "Advanced Search" and under "Apartment Features" you will find a Smoke Free checkbox.
- **In a special feature:** Local "Apartment Guide" offices will have the option of printing a page devoted to smoke-free buildings in the area.
- **In individual ads:** Property managers will now have the option to include "smoke-free" as an amenity in their ads.

While there is no local print version of "The Apartment Guide," Minnesota residents and managers can still utilize this feature on the web at www.apartmentguide.com.

Live Smoke Free has been encouraging apartment-finder services in Minnesota to provide an easy way for tenants to search for smoke-free buildings. If you know of a Minnesota apartment-finder service that would be interested in adding a smoke-free designation, please let us know.

First-Hand Experiences from Managers

Live Smoke Free staff have been hard at work educating people on the benefits of smoke-free multi-housing. Live Smoke Free had exhibit booths at conferences for the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association for Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) and the Minnesota Multi-Housing Association's Working Together Conference.

At both conferences, Live Smoke Free had panels of property managers who adopted smoke-free policies. The Working Together Conference featured Sheri Colucci from [Devonshire Apartments](#) in Bloomington, Toni Powell from [Mallard Creek Apartments](#) in Golden Valley, and a tenant suffering from secondhand smoke exposure in her unit. The NAHRO conference featured Julie Sieben of the [Sauk Centre Housing Authority](#), Jan Rohne of the [Benson Housing Authority](#), and George O'Brien of the [Melrose Housing Authority](#).

Both panels shared their desire to protect residents from the dangers of secondhand smoke and cigarette-related fires. If you would like to get in touch with one of our panelists, please let us know and we will be happy to arrange a contact.

Going to a Summer Event?

Bring along some smoke-free housing materials!

Summer may be short in Minnesota, but residents get out to enjoy the sunshine as much as possible. Summer is a time for community festivals and events to celebrate the things that make Minnesota a great place to live and play. Live Smoke Free will be out and about and numerous events to help educate people on the benefits of smoke-free housing. Since there are so many events, we need your help!

If your organization is taking part in an event, Live Smoke Free can send you materials for landlords and tenants about smoke-free housing. You can hand out our brochures and encourage people to contact us if they have any questions.

Have a fun and smoke-free summer!

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Do You Know of a Smoke-Free Building?

If you are aware of a multi-unit building that has a smoke-free policy, please let us know! Smoke-free buildings can receive free signs, free materials, and free advertising on our web site. Forward the link below to the owner or manager of the building and ask them to click on "My Landlord Account" to list their building on our directory.

http://www.mnsmokefreehousing.org/landlords/landlord_index.html

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